

assembly comprising a die with a cavity and an annular recess immediately adjacent to said cavity, comprising the steps of:

*B2*  
*cont* placing the superimposed planar sheets in the fastener setting and sheet deforming assembly; and

operating the assembly to set the fastener into engagement with the sheets such that the shank of the fastener is upset in said die cavity without penetration of the lowermost sheet of the superimposed generally planar sheets, and to deform all the sheets out of their planes into the annular recess.

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*B3*  
22. (Amended) An apparatus for joining together two or more superimposed generally planar sheets with a fastener having a shank, the apparatus comprising a fastener setting and sheet deforming assembly comprising a die, a cavity in said die and an annular recess immediately adjacent to said cavity, the apparatus being operative to receive the sheets, to set said fasteners into engagement with the sheets such that the shank of the fastener is upset in said die cavity without penetration of at least the lowermost sheet of the superimposed planar sheets and to deform all the sheets out of their plane into the annular recess.

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